GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:367
ANSWERED ON:28.03.2017
Seeds Bill
Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar;Subbareddy Shri Yerram Venkata

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Seeds Bill;

(b) whether the said Bill has been put on hold and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to bring in a new Seeds Bill to regulate seeds and plant material to ensure quality, increase private participation in production and distribution, liberalise imports, protect the rights of farmers and boost agricultural growth in the country; and

(d) if so, the details along with the present status thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
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(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 367 DUE FOR REPLY ON 28TH MARCH, 2017.
(a) & (b): Yes, Madam, the Government had introduced the Seeds Bill, 2004 in Parliament. The salient features of the Seeds Bill, 2004 include compulsory registration of varieties, enhancement of penalties, labeling of expected performance, seed health test, protection of the rights of the farmers, compensation to the farmers in case seed crop failures, regulate import and export of seeds, ban on genetic use registration technology (terminator technology) etc.
(c) & (d): The Seeds Bill, 2004 was finalized after extensive consultations with various stakeholders including farmers organizations to regulate the quality of seeds, planting material, safeguard the interests of the farmers and to boost agricultural growth in the country. The Seeds Bill, 2004 was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 9th December, 2004 and is under consideration.

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